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EXAMINER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3-4, 7, 9, 11-14, 17-18, 19, 21-24, 26, 28-30, 31-35, 36-39, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obradovich et al. (US PAT: 6,542,812, Provisional application No.60/160326, filed on Oct. 19, 1999, hereinafter Obradovich) in view of Roundtree (US PAT: 6,640,098, Provisional application No. 60/182,330, filed on Feb. 14, 2000).

Regarding claim 1, Obradovich discloses a wireless information distribution system comprising: a wireless information distribution device (630, fig. 5) and a portable wireless device (100, figs. 1, 5), and wireless information distribution device (630, fig. 5) including: an external transmitting and receiving device for carrying out wireless communication with a portable device (this is implied, col. 8 lines 51-55), a first memory for storing service information correlated to specific user attributes (col. 8 lines 30-59), and a first control unit in (630, fig. 5) for, in response to receiving service information request having user-provided user attributes specifying user preferences sent by the wireless portable device (100, figs. 1, 5), retrieving service information correlated to the user preferences and specified by user provided user attributes from the first memory to the portable wireless , the first control unit being further effective for controlling the transmitting of the retrieved service information to the portable device

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(fig. 5, col. 8 lines 30-59), the portable wireless device (100, fig. 1) including a second memory (108, fig. 1) for storing the service information request including the user-provided user attributes specifying specific user preferences (col. 3 lines 31-36, col. 4 lines 59-62), a display (113, fig. 1), a transmitting and receiving unit (121, fig. 1) for carrying out wireless communication with the wireless information distribution device (630, fig. 5) when within the range of the wireless information distribution, and a second control unit (103, fig. 1) for transmitting via the transmitting and receiving unit (121, fig. 1) a communication ready signal (this is implied as this is part of communication protocol when communication is established between server 630, fig. 5, and navigation device 100, fig. 5) and transmitting the service information request, including user provided user attributes, stored in the second memory to the external transmitting and receiving device, and for displaying on the display service information from the external transmitting and receiving device in response to information request (col. 6, line 41 – col. 7, line 2; col. 8 lines 30-59; figs. 9-14).

Obradovich differs from claims 1, 18, 24 in that although he teaches transmitting service information request to the wireless information distribution device and transmitted service information request made by the portable device (100, figs. 1, 5) is for local-specific information (col. 8 lines 30-59); he does not teach the following: external transmitting and receiving device transmits a communication request signal at regular intervals, control unit automatically transmitting request without user information upon receiving the communication request signal.

However, Roundtree discloses system for obtaining service related information for local interactive service devices which teaches the following: external transmitting and receiving device transmits a communication request signal at regular intervals, control unit automatically transmitting request without user information upon receiving the communication request signal (fig. 6, col. 10, line 4 – col. 11, line 34).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Obradovich's system to provide for the following: external transmitting and receiving device transmits a communication request signal at regular intervals, control unit automatically transmitting request without user information upon receiving the communication request signal as this arrangement would provide one of the methods, among many possible methods, of interaction between information sources and user devices to obtain information needed by users as taught by Roundtree.

Regarding claims 9, 19, 26, 31, 36-39, these claims are rejected for the same reasons as set forth for the rejection of claim 1.

Regarding claims 3-4, 7, 11-14, 17, 21-23, 28-30, 32-35, Obradovich further teaches the following: the service information request is for user transportation information that includes a departure point and a destination point of a user, the first memory storing service information relating to the movement of the at least one transportation means, and the control unit retrieving from the memory, service information about the movement of a specific transportation means specified in the service information request, the service information request is for user transportation

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information includes departure point and destination point of a user, the memory storing information on various departure points and on various corresponding transportation means, transfer points, and transfer points at the various transfer points usable in traveling from the various transportation departure points to the various destination points, and the first control unit retrieving from the first memory, service information corresponding to at least one of the various departure points, destination points, transportation means, transfer points, and transfer point options (col. 6 lines 51-58, col. 10 lines 9-62; figs. 10-11), service information request made by the portable wireless device is real time based information (col. 8 lines 30-59), the memory (108, fig. 1) stores the service information and corresponding user attributes, the control unit retrieves, from the memory, service information corresponding to user attributes included in the service request information (col. 8 lines 30-59), transfer options includes routes for use in changing transportation means at transferring points, various transportation includes any of train, bus, airplane, or ship (col. 6 lines 51-58).

3. Claims 5, 10, 20, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obradovich in view of Roundtree as applied to claims 1, 9, 19, 26 above, and further in view of Ritter (US PAT: 6,859,650, Pct Pub. Date 12-23-1998).

Regarding claim 5, the combination does not teach the following: service information request includes information for identifying a user and includes an entry or exit request from the user, the wireless information distribution device having an entry or exit controlling device, and the external transmitting and receiving device being provided in the vicinity of the entry or exit controlling device, wherein when the first control unit

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receives an entry or exit request via the transmitting and receiving device, the control unit determines whether to allow the request, and controls the entry or exit controlling device in accordance with the determination.

However, Ritter discloses mobile device, chip card and method for communication which teaches the following: service information request includes information for identifying a user and includes an entry or exit request from the user, the wireless information distribution device (reads on 3, 3') having an entry or exit controlling device, and the external transmitting and receiving device being provided in the vicinity of the entry or exit controlling device, wherein when the first control unit receives an entry or exit request via the transmitting and receiving device, the control unit determines whether to allow the request, and controls the entry or exit controlling device in accordance with the determination (figs. 1-2, col. 5 lines 9-17, col. 9, line 59 – col. 10, line 9).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: service information request includes information for identifying a user and includes an entry or exit request from the user, the wireless information distribution device having an entry or exit controlling device, and the external transmitting and receiving device being provided in the vicinity of the entry or exit controlling device, wherein when the first control unit receives an entry or exit request via the transmitting and receiving device, the control unit determines whether to allow the request, and controls the entry or exit controlling device in accordance with the determination as this arrangement would facilitate

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automated admittance control for entering or leaving protected locations as taught by Ritter, thus enhancing user convenience for entering/leaving protected locations.

Regarding claims 10, 20, 27, they are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in rejection of claim 5.

4. Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obradovich in view of Roundtree as applied to claims 9 above, and further in view of DeLorme et al. (US PAT: 5,948,040, hereinafter DeLorme) and Richton (US PAT: 6,650,902, filed 11-15-1999).

Regarding claims 15-16, the combination does not teach the following: transfer option include information about any of stairs, escalators, or elevators available for the user and wait time expected at a given transfer point.

However, DeLorme teaches obtaining information about any of stairs, escalators, or elevators available for the user (col. 32, line 65 – col. 33, line 11); and Richton teaches the following: wait time (reads on flight delay time) expected at a given transfer point (col. 4 lines 36-44).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: transfer option include information about any of stairs, escalators, or elevators available for the user and wait time expected at a given transfer point as this information facilitate the user who plans to travel so that user is fully prepared for all sort travel contingencies.

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5. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obradovich in view of Roundtree as applied to claim 19 above, and further in view of Kato (JP410319139A).

Regarding claim 25, the combination does not teach the following: display displays the time for a predetermined period after receiving the service information from an external transmitting and receiving device.

However, Kato discloses time display device and method which teaches the following: display displays the time for a predetermined period after receiving the service information from an external transmitting and receiving device (figs. 9, 13-14, see abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: display displays the time for a predetermined period after receiving the service information from an external transmitting and receiving device as this arrangement would facilitate displaying information useful for the user as taught by Kato.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melur Ramakrishnaiah whose telephone number is (571)272-8098. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 Hr schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curt Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Melur Ramakrishnaiah
Primary Examiner
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